

The Event of the Year! . . .

THE VILTIS BIRTHDAY PARTY

Inaugurating the 13th year of publication

(Born May 1942, in Fairhope, Alabama)

SUNDAY, MAY 2, from 1 to 6 P.M.

at the attractive and spacious

DIANA BALLROOM

4067 W. Pico Blvd. (2 blocks East of Crenshaw)

Los Angeles, Calif.

(Cool ventilation—ample parking space)

Two Folk Orchestras

- BOB COLISAR and his Orchestra will play the polkas, waltzes, etc.
- THE MERRY MERRILS will play the special folk dances and specialty numbers.
- ALSO: A program by many groups exhibiting many "first presentations" still unseen by Californian folk dancers, many of whom were trained by VYTS especially for this auspicious event
- JOHN FILCICH and his KOLOMANIACS will come down from San Francisco.

FEE: ONE SINGLE BUCK PER PERSON

Don't miss. . .

The event of the year

For information write to

V. F. Beliajus, 1402 Seventh, San Diego 1, Calif.

VYTS IN UCLA INSTITUTE

University of California, Los Angeles, will sponsor a folk dance institute on Saturday, April 3 from 10 a.m. to 12 noon, with Vyts Beliajus as the instructor.

This institute is primarily for teachers in secondary schools, colleges, recreational leaders, college students and those interested in the folk dance.

Purpose: To present dances that can be used effecting with youth and youth adult groups.

To provide a satisfactory dance experience for participants.

Place: Womens' Physical Education Bldg., UCLA.

Admission: \$1.75. Students \$1.50.

For information write to: Dr. Alma Hawkins, Dept. of Phys. Ed., UCLA, 405 Hilgard Ave., Los Angeles 24, Cal.

LIGHTED LANTERN TO SPONSOR VYTS

The spot is panoramic, historic and cool even during mid summer. It is situated on scenic Lookout Mountain overlooking the Rocky Mountain metropolis of Denver, high among the eagles' nests and amid mementos of Buffalo Bill and Indian Days. There, during the week of 15-21, Vyts Beliajus will conduct a folk dance institute. Those who want to learn and meanwhile enjoy scenery such as only Colorado can offer, get in touch with Paul Kemriest, Rt. 3, Golden Colorado.

STOCKTON CAMP—1954

The College of the Pacific announces its 7th Annual Folk Dance Camp at Stockton, July 26-31 and August 2-8. Again "Yours Truly" will be on the faculty, this time with some newly recorded Catalan Dances. We think that you will like them.

On this faculty, the largest of all the Camps—too large we'd guess—are Ralph Page from Keene, New Hampshire, teaching Contras and breathing a New England atmosphere all about; Bruce Johnson, a new name in Squares but already made famous by his recordings; Juana de Laban, a specialist on Magyar and Bohemian dances; Kirby Todd of Folk Village, Illinois, with songs and dances; Anatole Joukowski, with a fresh treasure of Slavic Dances.

Many of the old time faculty will again be on hand, "Kolo John" Filcich, Madelynnne Greene, Grace Perryman, Lucile Czarnowski, Walter Grothe, Dale Garrett, Buzz Glass, to mention only a few. Genial George Murton will MC the interesting and usually humorous daily assemblies. Parties are scheduled each evening, with a full fledged festival under the stars for the closing night, August 8. Lawton Harris is the director and you should write to him for additional information—College of the Pacific, Stockton 4, Cal

JEWISH FOLK DANCES IN FRISCO

Florence Freehof, leader and instructor of the Jewish folk dance in the Bay Area, is having classes for Jewish-Israeli dances every Wednesday from 8 to 10 p.m. at 3255 Balboa, San Francisco. All are invited.

A FESTIVE PASSOVER



(Passover falls this year on April 18-25)

The above are pages of a Haggadah (Book of Narration) printed in Germany in 1739 and now at the Jewish Museum in New York (Foto - Frank Darmstaedter). During the first nights of Passover, when all are seated around the heavy laden festive table, the Haggadah which narrates the story of the Exodus from Egypt, is retold and songs are sung.

Next to the Sabbath, the Passover is the oldest Jewish holiday of continuous use, whose history goes back 4,000 years. The sale of Joseph to the Egyptians and the drought in Canaan led the events which brought the Israelites into Egypt, their resultant enslavement and final exodus about 1250 before the Christian Era. Among Christians, the Holy Communion performed in the churches, is in commemoration of the Seder, known as the Last Supper, when Christ with His Disciples and along with all the Jews celebrated, in much the same manner as the Seder is still celebrated among the Jews.

"Passover" is the translation of the Hebrew word "Pessakh", skipping or passing over; for when God's angel was slaying the first born of the Misrim, He passed over (by-passed) the Jewish homes.

Because the Israelites left Egypt hastily, without a chance to prepare their food, or leaven their bread, Matsoth (sing. Matsah), unleavened bread, was baked. Such Matsoth are used by the Jews during the week-long festival. Among the Christians the communion bread, or wafer, commemorates the breaking of the Matsah during that fateful Seder.

During the Temple periods, the Passover was one of the most popular, gayest and most festive celebration. The Roman Cestius Gallus reported to Nero in the year 66 of the Christian Era, that 3,000,000 pilgrims attended!

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— NUT ROLLING GAMES —

During the Passover holidays, the following forms of games are played. Hazelnuts are popularly used for these games. Any number of children can play them.

(1) Dig a small hole in the ground. Stand at a certain named distance. Roll a nut toward the hole; if it enters the hole, the player gets it back. If not, it remains where it stopped. Another player rolls a nut. If it enters the hole now that there are other nuts strewn about, the player snaps his fingers, as in shooting marbles, against any nut and, as many as the player succeeds in snapping into the hole become his winnings. Once he fails, another player gets the chance to roll.

(2) A nut is placed on the ground. At a given distance a board, about three feet long by about six inches wide, is elevated at one end above the ground. From that elevated end a nut is rolled. If the player fails to make a hit, the nut remains on the ground, but if he does hit a nut, the player takes as many nuts as there are on the ground. Each player gets one chance.

(3) A predecided number of nuts are placed in a row about five inches apart beside each player. Players stand at a given distance and snap a nut with the fingers. If the nut in a line is hit, or as many that are moved from their position become the player's take. Each player gets one chance. Play is continued until all the nuts in the row are taken. (The above three games were described by Rose Stein, formerly of Ukraine.)

(4) Place nuts in a wide row, touching each other, and facing the players. Stand at a certain given distance and throw a nut from a standing position. If a hit is made, or as many nuts are jarred from their place are the player's take. If missed, the nut thrown joins the row on the floor.

(5) Build a pyramid of five walnuts (four on the ground and one above). Stand at a given distance and throw a nut at the pyramid. If the pile is hit, the player gets the nuts, if not, the thrown nut also remains on the floor and the next player gets a chance at throwing at the target. (The above two games were described by Naftali Berger of Transylvania, Romanian-ruled Hungary.)

Linksmų Šventų Velykų

Wesołego Alleluja

A Joyous Easter

Khristos Anesti

Khristos Voskresya

Pascua Feliz

Sretan Uskurs

Froeliche Ostern

No matter in which language, to all our Readers and Friends we wish a Happy Holy Easter.

V I L T I S

SYMBOLS THESE THREE

NANN BAUR

Behold the Crib!

Behold the Cross!

Angels chant

Angels weep

Peace Amen,

Upon the tree,

Peace Amen,

Upon the tree,

Jesus is born

Christ has died

in Bethlehem.

On Calvary.

Behold the Crown!

Angels praise

He is risen,

He is risen,

The Saviour reigns

In Earth and Heaven.

VILTIS

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